

Amendments To The Specification:

Please replace the specified paragraphs of the specification presently on file with the following amended paragraphs:

[0001] This patent application is a continuation-in-part ~~claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 of the abandoned~~ US non-provisional Patent Application No. 10/625,906 entitled "Encapsulated Optical Package" filed July 24, 2003, and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. This application is also related to commonly assigned co-pending applications filed herewith bearing application number 10/625,905 titled: "Optical Connector Assembly" and 10/625,901 titled: "Optical Ferrule", the specifications of which are hereby incorporated by reference.